WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser, comprising:
 - a substrate;
 - a first mirror stack over the substrate;
- an active region having a plurality of quantum wells over the first mirror stack;
- a tunnel junction over the active region, the tunnel junction including a modulation doped layer; and
 - a second mirror stack over the tunnel junction.
- 2. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 1, wherein the modulation layer is doped with a concentration greater than $1x10^{19}$ cm⁻³.
- 3. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 1, wherein the modulation doped layer further includes a first layer and a second layer, the first layer being a highly dopable material or a dopant layer.
- 4. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 3, wherein a total thickness of the first layer and the second layer is in a range of about 0.1nm ~ about 2nm.
- 5. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 1, a p-layer of the tunnel junction includes the modulation doped layer.

- 6. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 5, wherein an n-layer of the tunnel junction further includes an n-layer of a compound selected from the group consisting of InP, AlInAs, AlInGaAs, InGaAsP, GaAs, AlAs, AlGaAs, InGaAs, AlGaAsSb, GaAsSb, AlAsSb, AlPSb, GaPSb, AlGaPSb, and combinations thereof.
- 7. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 6, wherein the modulation doped layer is an AlInAs layer epitaxially grown as a digital alloy of p-type doped AlAs and InAs.
- 8. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 7, wherein the p-type AlAs layer is doped with carbon to a concentration greater than $1x10^{19}$ cm⁻³, and wherein an effective doping concentration of the modulation doped layer is greater than $1x10^{19}$ cm⁻³.
- 9. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 1, an n-layer of the tunnel junction includes the modulation doped layer.'
- 10. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 9, wherein a p-layer of the tunnel junction further includes a p-layer of a compound selected from the group consisting of InP, AlInAs, AlInGaAs, InGaAsP, GaAs, AlAs, AlGaAs, InGaAs, AlGaAsSb, GaAsSb, AlAsSb, AlPSb, GaPSb, AlGaPSb, and combinations thereof.
- 11. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 10, wherein the modulation doped layer includes a SiAs layer and an AlGaInAs layer.

- 12. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 11, wherein the AlGaInAs layer is n-type or non-intentionally doped.
- 13. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 11, wherein the thickness of the SiAs layer is about 1/1000 of the AlGaInAs layer.
- 14. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 11, wherein an effective doping concentration of the modulation doped layer is greater than 1x10¹⁹ cm⁻³.
- 15. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 1, further including an n-type spacer adjacent the active region, and wherein the first mirror stack is an n-type DBR.
- 16. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 1, further including an p-type spacer adjacent the tunnel junction, and wherein the second mirror stack is an n-type DBR.
- 17. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 1, further including: an n-type bottom spacer adjacent the active region, and wherein the first mirror stack is an n-type DBR; and

an p-type top spacer adjacent the tunnel junction,
wherein the first and second mirror stacks are each an n-type DBR.

- 18. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 5, wherein the p-layer is doped with carbon with a concentration greater than 1×10^{19} cm⁻³.
- 19. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 1, wherein the active region includes one of InGaAsP and AlInGaAs.
- 20. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 1, wherein the first and second mirror stacks are lower and upper mirror stacks, respectively.
- 21. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 1, wherein the modulation layer is used for both a p-layer and an n-layer of the tunnel junction.
- 22. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser according to claim 21, wherein the n-layer includes a SiAs layer and an AlGaInAs layer, and wherein the p-layer is an AlInAs layer epitaxially grown as a digital alloy of p-type doped AlAs and InAs.
 - 23. A tunnel junction including a modulation doped layer.
- 24. A tunnel junction according to claim 23, wherein the modulation-doped layer is doped with an effective carrier concentration greater than 1×10^{19} cm⁻³.
- 25. A tunnel junction according to claim 23, wherein the modulation doped layer further includes a first layer and a second layer, the first layer being a highly dopable material or a dopant layer.

- 26. A tunnel junction according to claim 25, wherein a total thickness of the first layer and the second layer is in a range of about 0.1nm ~ about 2nm.
- 27. A tunnel junction according to claim 23, a p-layer of the tunnel junction includes the modulation doped layer.
- 28. A tunnel junction according to claim 27, wherein an n-layer of the tunnel junction further includes an n-layer of a compound selected from the group consisting of InP, AlInAs, AlInGaAs, InGaAsP, GaAs, AlAs, AlGaAs, InGaAs, AlGaAsSb, GaAsSb, AlAsSb, AlPSb, GaPSb, AlGaPSb, and combinations thereof.
- 29. A tunnel junction according to claim 23, wherein the modulation doped layer is an AlInAs layer epitaxially grown as a digital alloy of p-type doped AlAs and InAs.
- 30. A tunnel junction according to claim 29, wherein the p-type AlAs layer is doped with carbon to a concentration greater than $1x10^{19}$ cm⁻³, and wherein an effective doping concentration of the modulation doped layer is greater than $1x10^{19}$ cm⁻³.
- 31. A tunnel junction according to claim 23, an n-layer of the tunnel junction includes the modulation doped layer.
- 32. A tunnel junction according to claim 31, wherein a p-layer of the tunnel junction further includes a p-layer of a compound selected from the group consisting of InP,

AllnAs, AllnGaAs, InGaAsP, GaAs, AlAs, AlGaAs, InGaAs, AlGaAsSb, GaAsSb, AlAsSb, AlPSb, GaPSb, AlGaPSb, and combinations thereof.

- 33. A tunnel junction according to claim 32, wherein the modulation doped layer includes a SiAs layer and an AlGaInAs layer.
- 34. A tunnel junction according to claim 33, wherein the AlGaInAs layer is n-type or non-intentionally doped.
- 35. A tunnel junction according to claim 33, wherein the thickness of the SiAs layer is about 1/1000 of the AlGaInAs layer.
- 36. A tunnel junction according to claim 33, wherein an effective doping concentration of the modulation doped layer is greater than 1×10^{19} cm⁻³.
 - 37. A long wavelength VCSEL, comprising:

 an indium-based semiconductor alloy substrate;

 a first mirror stack over the substrate;

 an active region having a plurality of quantum wells over the first mirror
- a tunnel junction over the active region, the tunnel junction including a modulation doped layer; and
 - a second mirror stack over the tunnel junction.

stack;

- 38. A long wavelength VCSEL according to claim 37, wherein the modulation layer is doped with a concentration greater than 1×10^{19} cm⁻³.
- 39. A long wavelength VCSEL according to claim 37, wherein the modulation doped layer further includes a first layer and a second layer, the first layer being a highly dopable material or a dopant layer.
- 40. A long wavelength VCSEL according to claim 39, wherein a total thickness of the first layer and the second layer is in a range of about 0.1nm ~ about 2nm.